

AMERICAN SHOT DOWN BY MEXICANS TRYING TO LOCATE STOLEN CATTLE

Bert Akers of Yaleta Is Killed While Fleeing From Men in Whose Pens He Found Widow's Stolen Cows; His Companion, Douglas Downs, Has Close Call; Mexican Officer With Them Is Also Shot.

(Continued from page 1.)

and do so. On Tuesday both Akers and Downs started from Juarez, walking down the valley. At San Lorenzo they found the trail of the cattle.

Downs said he saw two of the Murphy cattle in the pen back of the Duran place, Finley said Saturday. Their ears were cut off and the brands freshly branded over. He told Finley that he knew the Murphy cattle, as he had milked them many times. Akers and Downs then arranged to meet the Mexican officer from Juarez Friday at San Lorenzo at noon and identify the cattle. Consul Edwards cautioned them to go unarmed.

Edwards Makes Statement.
American consul Edwards stated Saturday morning that, to the best of his knowledge, Akers and Lawrence had been unarmed when they went to the Duran house.

"They came to me a few days ago and I told them to go alone and unarmed across the river and find the cattle, then come to me and I would secure an officer from Gen. Gavira to go with them," he said. "Apparently they obeyed my instructions in everything except coming to me for the officer. They secured the officer themselves. Had they come to me, I would have secured a military officer for them."

According to official statements from

Mexican officers, the body was brought to Juarez Saturday morning. Members of the Yaleta lodge, Woodmen of the World, to which lodge Akers belonged, came to El Paso Saturday morning to take charge of the body. They were Paul Wuerchmidt, consul commander; F. W. Whitney, past consul commander; L. E. Polk, G. A. Loewenstein, J. D. White and H. A. Carnes.

Tracked by Inspectors.
Border customs inspectors H. A. Carnes and J. D. White tracked the stolen cattle from Yaleta to Cinca, crossing, by which route they were rustled across the international line to the vicinity of San Lorenzo. The cows were stolen Saturday night. Carnes and White trailed them most of Sunday, locating the exact crossing place, but the two men could not cross into Mexico territory.

From where Carnes and White left off, Downs and Akers began their search. For three days they had the services of a Juarez police officer, attached to the Juarez secret service. This official's name was stated by Gen. Gavira Friday midnight to be Juan Barrios.

Mexican Is Arrested.
Under arrest in Juarez, according to Gen. Gavira's Friday night statement, are Bernardo Duran, charged with the killing of the American, and his brother,

THE MESA WELL IS BROUGHT IN

Mayor Lea Celebrates Opening of Mesa Well; Former Mayor Uncaps Well.

El Paso met a dry situation damply when the new municipal well on the mesa was brought in Saturday afternoon over sandwiches and coffee. The sandwiches and the coffee were prepared by the quartermaster's department of the United States army and the chefs for the occasion were furnished through the courtesy of Gen. John F. Puckett. The celebration was arranged by mayor Tom Lea.

The big new well was uncapped by former mayor Charles R. Moorehead, who was one of the original advocates of the mesa location. The guest list for the event was made up of officials of the county and the city who assembled at the city hall at 12 o'clock and motored out in cars lent for the occasion to the scene of the new water unit. In honor of the celebration the city hall was closed all noon and all the official family stayed a half holiday.

er, Federico, charged with being an accomplice in the cattle stealing and murder which followed.

The murderer was believed Friday night and Sunday morning to be an ex-convict from Santa Fe, N. M., and Mexican consul Garcia wired the sheriff at that point to get penitentiary officials there to look for Duran's brother. No word in reply had been received by the consul Saturday morning.

Is He Ex-Convict.
Carrazas consul Garcia made the following statement of the killing: "Bernardo Duran, according to advice from the sheriff at Santa Fe, N. M., is a serial criminal. He was serving a term of from three to five years on a charge of stealing cattle. He is said to have escaped from a convict camp at San Marcial, January 10, 1914. He had not been heard of since. The identification corresponds to that of Bernardo Duran, who is being held in Juarez on a charge of cattle stealing and murder. His brother, Federico Duran, is being held on a charge of cattle stealing and being an accomplice in the murder of Akers. They are the only men who have been arrested."

The body of Akers is at the Madero hospital in Juarez and will be turned over to American authorities today.

Gen. Gabriel Gavira at midnight Friday issued a statement which he declared was complete, giving the Juarez side of the affair, with names of the murdered and captured men at the San Lorenzo place. It is as follows:

"Three days ago two Americans appeared at the office of the mayor and requested the aid of an officer of police to look for six or seven fine cows that had been stolen from them. One officer of the secret service was furnished by the mayor."

Searched Two Days.
"This officer, with the Americans, was employed all of day yesterday and part of today looking for the cows. They went to Saragosa and searched the neighborhood without result."

About 5 o'clock this (Friday) afternoon they went toward the place named San Lorenzo, where they learned through a porter at the public house that at a place nearby some cows were hidden, and that perhaps there were the ones being sought for. They were also told that some of the cows had been offered for sale.

"From the milking house the Americans and the secret service officer went to the place where they were told the cows were to be found. Arriving there, one of the Americans, looking through a fence, saw two men in the cow house. All three men went to the door of the house and knocked. One of the Durans answered. He asked what they wanted. They told him they wanted to go in and see the cows. Duran requested them to show their authority."

Duran Possessed at Men.
"The Mexican officer of police said that he did not have an order for search but showed his star. Duran then said that he would go in the house and see what his brother thought of it, but in a few moments the two Durans appeared on the roof and began shooting at the men below. The two Americans and the Mexican officer, of course, returned the fire, at the same time backing away in order to get their horses and flee. The Mexican officer ran to the left and the Americans to the right. The Duran brothers rushed down to the door and started in pursuit. Federico Duran after the Mexican officer and Bernardo after the two Americans. One American reached a horse, but the Mexican officer could not get to his mount. The mounted American took the other American on his horse."

Soldiers Investigate.
"The Mexican officer was overtaken by his pursuer and relieved of his arms and badge. Duran exacted a pledge not to report the matter and was taking the officer back to the house when a detachment of soldiers, detailed on duty in the neighborhood to take care of some horses, and who heard the shooting, appeared to investigate. The sergeant in command apprehended Federico Duran and the Mexican officer. They told him what had occurred."

"Two soldiers, whom the sergeant had detailed to make a detour and investigate, thereupon appeared with Bernardo Duran, who had pursued the two Americans mounted on a single horse. Duran was on horseback and was leading another horse. The sergeant asked him what had occurred."

"Duran replied that he had just killed one American in self defense. He said he had pursued the two Americans about three miles when he saw one of the Americans fall down. The other American jumped off the horse, and, running on foot, disappeared."

Admits the Killing.
"Duran said that when he approached the dead body he noticed that it was that of an American, something of which he had not been aware before. Duran also declared that the other American was not hurt."

The sergeant then brought to general headquarters, here in Juarez, the whole party. They arrived about 5 o'clock this evening.

"Gen. Gavira ordered an investigation at once. The Duran brothers have not satisfied the authorities as to how they obtained the cows. They said a friend had left them at the ranch to be taken care of. Therefore Gen. Gavira thinks that the men were thieves and that the cows were stolen."

The names of the men are Bernardo Duran, who killed the American, and his brother, Federico Duran, who pursued and captured the policeman. The police official was Juan Barrios.

Sends for Body.
"Gen. Gavira sent a party of police to bring the body of the slain American in. The shooting occurred at the rancho San Lorenzo."

Gen. Gavira has asked consul Garcia of El Paso to request the penitentiary officials at Santa Fe, N. M., to look up the record of Bernardo Duran, who is reported to have been a prisoner there on account of cattle stealing and who escaped.

"Gen. Gavira announces that if the Durans are found guilty they will receive the punishment they deserve."

Akers a Woodman.
J. R. Akers, known as Bert Akers has been a ranchman at Yaleta for the past six or eight years. He is survived by a wife and three children. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World.

Mrs. Akers, when called on the telephone at 10:30 Friday night, had not heard of her husband's death, and broke down completely when it was reported to her. Her sobbing could be heard over the 12 miles of wire, in El Paso.

Mrs. Akers said distractedly, when first called, that her husband had gone out at 9 o'clock that morning accom-

\$35,000 RAISED FOR BIG BUDGET

Chamber of Commerce Has Made Remarkable Record; Many Volunteers.

A total of \$35,000 of the \$47,000 budget has been raised by the chamber of commerce budget fund committee.

The canvass has been retarded with conflicting affairs, but the business men have been subscribing more liberally than at any time in the past and many of the business men have voluntarily subscribed, increasing their subscriptions without being seen by the canvassing committees.

The newest subscriptions to the fund are:

Two Republic Life Insurance Co. \$100
Pik-Ramsey Realty Co. \$100
Great Texas Realty Co. \$100

panied by Douglas Downs, a young cattleman employed by the widow Murphy. Mrs. Akers had not heard a word from her husband since he left in the morning, she said. She was worried about him, she declared, and repeated anxiously: "Do you know where Bert is?" When she was asked if she had heard that he had been shot by Mexicans across the line, she could not speak through her sobs.

Constable Spencer at Yaleta had been helping Akers, Downs and border riders Carnes and White get trace of the trail of the stolen cattle and had trocked on the job since Sunday morning.

Typical Mexican Village.
San Lorenzo, where the killing occurred, is a perfect setting for such a tragedy as that of Friday afternoon.

It is a little valley settlement below Juarez on the river road which runs from Juarez to Guadalupe. The old church of San Lorenzo stands on the river side of the main road and an open plaza in front of this church is where the famous gambling fiestas of San Lorenzo are held each fall for the benefit of the church. The white spire of this old church may be seen plainly from El Paso on clear days.

Not Much to San Lorenzo.
There is not much more to San Lorenzo than the old church, the plaza and the gambling fiesta. A number of adobe houses squat about the ragged borders of the plaza while an adobe store supplies the community with all of the necessities of life. A small buy in Juarez or across the ford at Yaleta.

To reach San Lorenzo, it is necessary to drive down the old river road from Juarez. The road is lined with cottonwoods that look to be 100 years old, watered from the Acequia Madre. The dust is a foot deep along the silty road at the time when the gambling fiestas are held, which is the only time anyone goes to San Lorenzo. A carriage as ancient as the cottonwoods, with equally antiquated mags, make the trip to and from San Lorenzo for four bits, Mexican money. It does a big business while the festival of chance runs.

Reckless For Thieves.
San Lorenzo has long been the rendezvous for cattle rustlers, tequila smugglers and bad men of both borders. It is easy to dodge across the river at the San Lorenzo ford, rustle a few head of cattle and drive them back before the Texas rangers get the trail.

When the Madero revolution started, San Lorenzo was one of the outposts for the revolutionary band which fled from Guadalupe, further down the river.

To Appear Here With Skoogard



CLARA FREULER in Cavalieria Rusticana

Many celebrated singers will appear with Skoogard, the Danish violinist, when he comes to the Texas Grand theater next Friday night with the Metropolitan concert. The El Paso high school orchestra is to appear jointly with these visiting artists.

There were a number of skirmishes fought in and around San Lorenzo and a part of the general action during the battle of Tierra Blanca centered in San Lorenzo.

Has Honored Many Nations.
Its thatched roof houses have been made stables for many mounts of revolutionaries and the old wives have been forced to cook for Diaz federals, Maderes, rebels, Huerta federals and Villa rebels as the political wheel turned in Mexico like the roulette wheels at the gambling fiesta of San Lorenzo. Like this same gambling device, these old wives have always lost, for the soldiers always galloped away without paying, often taking a milk cow for meat and horses for fresh mounts.

WATER CONDITIONS, RIO GRANDE PROJECT

Reservoir Dam 6.5 m. Area Ft. 100,000
Increase 24 hrs. \$4.17 \$14,280
Outflow 15 cfs. 0.58 2,125
Jan. 22, 1916.

Add "Things Better Left Unsaid."
All Mr. Tumulty had to say about the Mexican situation.

BAND CONCERT AT POST SUNDAY

A military band concert will be given at the post Sunday afternoon by the eighth cavalry band. The concert will be from 3:30 to 4:30 p. m. and will be directed by bandmaster Rocco Rosta. The program which he has arranged is as follows:

March, "Officer of the Guard," Busch.
Overture, "Hungarian Comedy," Bela.
Duet from "Il Trovatore," (Miserere) Verdi.
Waltz, "Anna's Dream," German.
March, "The Serpents," Boccalini.
Medley overture, "Comedy," Lampe.
March, "Il Bersagliere," Boccalini.

TODAY'S AMUSEMENTS

MARY PICKFORD.
By reason of many requests for a Ford in "The Foundling," the Alhambra has arranged by wire to show this pleasing feature again today, which is positively the last time in the city. In "The Foundling," "Little Mary" is more charming than ever and depicts the lovable character of the founding in a manner that only Mary is capable of. Large crowds will no doubt be in attendance and all are advised to come as early as possible.—Advertisement.

"HOUSE OF TEARS"—UNIQUE.
Emily Stevens, who starred in "The Soul of a Woman," is featured today and tomorrow in "The House of Tears," a six-part Metro production by Frank Dusey. This picture tells a vital human story, portraying in powerful fashion a phase of modern society life that menaces future generations. It's Metro and a picture worth while. Shows start at 12 noon, 1:30, 3, 4:30, 6, 7:30, 9 p. m. Adults are 25 and children 15 cents.—Advt.

7:30, 9 p. m. Adults are 25 and children 15 cents.—Advt.

"CARMEN" AT THE EUREKA TODAY.
The classical tale of love and passion, "Carmen," featuring Geraldine Farrar, is the bill today at the Eureka. In this production Miss Farrar has added new laurels to her already brilliant score, and has given such charming interpretation to this version of "Carmen" that it will be enjoyed and admired everywhere. Special music from "Carmen" will be played from 10 to 10 p. m. Admission is 10c; children, 5c.—Advt.

FOUR FINE NEW CARS FOR EL PASO & SOUTHWESTERN

Two new observation cars and two new dining cars, which will reach El Paso Monday and Tuesday afternoon in the Golden State limited train, are said to be the finest ever built. These four cars have just been built for the El Paso & Southwestern railroad and a diner and an observation car will leave Chicago tonight in the Golden State and another new diner and new observation car will leave in tomorrow night's train. These cars are described as the very latest thing in transportation elegance and were considered such beautiful specimens of the car builder's art that they were placed on exhibition for several days in Chicago at the La Salle street station by the Pullman company, which built them. The Rock Island, the El Paso & Southwestern and the Southern Pacific jointly furnish the dining and observation cars for the Golden State trains. These new cars are to replace some of the Southwestern's rolling stock that was becoming out of date.

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Visitors--

A Feldman portrait of yourself is the best souvenir of your visit to El Paso.

Feldman's Portraits Have a National Reputation.



CONFIDENCE The Basis of All Good Business

WE hardly need tell the public of the success of our big Piano Sale in connection with our recent "33" Puzzle.

The Public Confidence in the Jenkins Piano Co. and the Jenkins Piano Co.'s regard for this confidence is the whole story.

In addition to this announcement being in the nature of an appreciation for the Public's Confidence, we want to remind you that in addition to the liberal credit allowed on the "33" Puzzle bonafide reductions are being made in addition. Note the following:

PLAYER PIANOS

\$750 Player Pianos, - \$500
\$850 Player Pianos, - \$650
\$450 Pianos - - - \$325

All others reduced in Same Proportions.

We join El Paso in extending a welcome to Visitors.

Jenkins Piano Co.

"THE BIG PIANO HOUSE"

211 Texas St.

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